THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The restructuring of only the Income Tax Department has been completed.

(d) Does not arise.

Cases of Income tax refund

2969. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total amount of Income Tax refund due to assessees in Delhi Circle during 2000-2001;

(b) how much of it has been actually refunded;

(c) the reasons for the rest being not attended to; and

(d) what is the normal time taken to dispose off a refund case in the Income Tax Department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) All the returns received during financial year 2000-2001 are in the process of finalisation. However, during the year 2000-2001 Rs. 2097.81 crore of refunds had been given to the assessees in the Delhi Region. The total number of refund issued during this year is 2,95,999.

(c) It is not correct to state that refunds are not being attended to. However, in some cases the Advance Tax Challans, TDS certificates etc., required verification which delayed the issue of refunds.

(d) The processing of returns of income filed during any financial year is done chronologically. The instructions are in place for issue of refund within 30 days from the date of determination of refund on processing. Whenever, any grievance regarding delay in issue of refund is received by the Department, the same is attended to promptly and corrective action taken.